## REMARKS

Applicants request reconsideration of the above-mentioned application in view of the foregoing amendments and following discussion.

1. Claims 1 - 18, inclusive have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Valette (US 2,712,205). The applicants have amended independent claims 1, 6, 10 and 15 to distinctly claim the feature of a bowed shaft. No new matter has been added. The specification of the present application clearly supports this feature, as may be seen on page 6, line 4, for example. The Valette reference neither shows nor claims the bowed shaft as now claimed in the present application. In contrast, the device of the Valette reference is configured to provide a continuous abrading surface having a non bowed shaft. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 6, 10 and 15 as amended are believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 2 - 5, 7 - 9, 11 - 14, and 16 - 18 depend from independent claims believed to be in condition for allowance, and as such, claims 2 - 5, inclusive, 7 - 9, inclusive, 11 - 14, inclusive, and 16 - 18, inclusive are also believed to be in condition for allowance.
2. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be removed, that amended claims 1, 6, 10, and 15 and claims 2 - 5, inclusive, 7 - 9, inclusive, 11 - 14, inclusive, and 16 - 18, inclusive, be passed to allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,

By _____
John M. Manion, Reg. No. 38,957

RYAN KROMHOLZ & MANION, S.C.
Post Office Box 26618
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226
(262) 783 - 1300
14 January 2003
Spencer Johnston/17254/030114 Amt. B

Enclosures: Request for Continued Examination Transmittal
Clean Set of Claims
Return Postcard

1. (amended) A spreader roll for processing machines of the type used in the paper, textile and plastics industry comprising;

a bowed shaft;

a cylindrical outer surface comprising a plurality of cylinder elements axially aligned along said shaft, each of said elements having an outer surface and at least one end portion having a nonlinear profile.

2. The spreader roll of claim 1 wherein said non-linear profile of adjacent ones of said cylinder elements are arranged in mating relationship.

3. The spreader roll of claim 2 wherein said non-linear profile defines a generally sine wave configuration.

4. The spreader roll of claim 3 wherein said sine wave configuration includes flattened areas.

5. The spreader roll of claim 3 wherein said sine wave configuration includes tessellated, partially mosaic flattened areas.

6. (amended) In a spreader roll including a bowed shaft, a cylindrical outer surface mounted for rotation about said shaft, said cylindrical outer surface being comprised of a plurality of interconnected cylinder elements, each of said cylinder elements including an outer surface and oppositely disposed end portions, the improvement wherein at least one of said oppositely disposed end portions has a nonlinear profile.

7. The spreader roll of claim 6 wherein said nonlinear profile defines a sine wave configuration.

8. The spreader roll of claim 7 wherein said sine wave configuration includes flattened areas.

9. The spreader roll of claim 8 wherein said sine wave configuration includes tessellated, partially mosaic flattened areas.

10. (amended) A spreader roll for processing machines of the type used in the paper, textile and plastics industry comprising:

a bowed shaft;

a plurality of roll segments, said roll segments being rotatably supported on said shaft; and

each said segment having at least one non-linear end edge profile.

11. The spreader roll of claim 10 wherein said non-linear end edge profiles are arranged to intermesh with adjacent roll segments.

12. The spreader roll of claim 10 wherein said non-linear end edge profile is substantially sinusoidal.

13. The spreader roll of claim 12 wherein the substantially sinusoidal edge profile includes at least one flattened area.

14. The spreader roll of claim 12 wherein the substantially sinusoidal edge profile includes tessellated, partially mosaic flattened areas.

15. (amended) A spreader roll for processing machines of the type used in the paper, textile and plastics industry comprising:

a bowed shaft;

a cylindrical outer surface comprising a plurality of cylindrical roll segments axially aligned and rotatably supported on said shaft; and

each said segment having a sinusoidal end edge profile.

16. The spreader roll of claim 15 wherein said non-linear end edge profiles are arranged to interlock with adjacent roll segments.

17. The spreader roll of claim 15 wherein each said sinusoidal end edge profile includes at least one flattened area.

18. The spreader roll of claim 15 wherein each said sinusoidal end edge profile includes tessellated, partially mosaic flattened areas.